The system of having a nodal officer for each on going project has been introduced. The nodal officer is required to keep track of and facilitate resolution of problems which may delay the project by escalating the issue to appropriate levels for immediate resolutions.

For hydro power project, the three stage development system has been introduced with the objective of reducing time and cost overruns by ensuring that before main contract packages are awarded:-

(a) necessary infrastructure is developed,

(b) land is acquired, and

(c) Detailed Project Reports are prepared after thorough investigation.

Foodgrains to drough hit States

1503. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of foodgrains given as drought relief to six affected States so far;

(b) whether Andhra Pradesh has requested for release of more rice to continue works taken up under special Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana; and

(c) the decisions taken on the request of Andhra Pradesh Government for further relief of Rs. 174 crores?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI U. V. KRISHNAM RAJU):(a) During the current year i.e. 2002-2003, about 57.68 lakh tonnes of foodgrains have been allocated to 14 drought affected States under the Special Component of the Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yozana (SGRY).

(b) State Government of Andhra Pradesh requested for release of 15 lakh tonnes of foodgrains under the Special Component of the SGRY to complete the incomplete works taken up under the erstwhile Food for Work Programme (FFWP). The request of the State Government was agreed to. In addition, 5 lakh tonnes of Rice has been releasead to the

State Government to take up new relief works in the drought affected areas.

(c) The request of the State Government of Andhra Pradesh was agreed to subject to adjustment of available balances in the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) of the State.

Alarming rate of migration from villages

†1504. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that facilities of development in villages are negligible and migration from villages to cities has acquired dangerous proportion;

(b) if so, what is the rate of this migration and State-wise details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this migration is creating social and family imbalance in States like Rajasthan, Bihar and Orissa; and

(d) if so, the steps Government are taking to stop this migration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M. K. PATIL): (a) While the rural-urban divide in terms of facilities is visible, no such report has been received in the Ministry indicating migration from villages to cities has acquired dangerous proportion.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The Ministry does not have any such report.

(d) The Ministry of Rural Development implements the Sampooma Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) in the rural areas of the country to generate wage employment, which in turn would reduce migration from villages to cities in search of employment. In addition, the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana also creates self-employment in the rural areas.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.